

# Water Allocation Program Advisory Committee

## First Steps

1st Steps
<b>Water Use Reporting Sub-Committee</b> First step - get critical infrastructure in place / ready to accept data
Require “major” public suppliers to report monthly water withdrawal data annually on a calendar year basis (breakdown of use by type of use and by quarter)
Require water use report for major users (greater than 3 million gallons per year or >8,200gpd or 740,000 period). Voluntary reporting initially and mandatory reporting beginning January, 2007
Conduct research to develop a range of domestic water use coefficients to assist local land use decisions on
<b>Steam flow Sub-Committee</b>
Maintain existing gages
Evaluate and modify the proposed RIABF
Prioritize new gages with a recommended phase in schedule
Develop a frame work for the watershed specific standards
<b>Priority Uses Sub-Committee</b>
The Water Resources Board further refine the definition of safe yield
<b>Water Rights Sub-Committee</b> (From Executive Summary)
Establish the Water Resources Board as the arbiter of “reasonable use”
Establish legislative links between water quality and quantity and surface water and ground water
Develop policies that will enable predictable responses during drought
Continue to collect data as widely as possible to aid in current and future water use decisions
Develop a new rights structure as a combination of Voluntary, Marketing, and Regulatory Approaches during of certain users, and Full-time Permitting of certain uses.

<b>1st Steps</b>
<b>Out-of-Basin Sub-Committee</b>
Establish a water withdrawal permit system that considers OOBT, stream flow and conservation among other factors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Assess impacts that would impair the sustainable development of the basin of origin with stream flow</li> <li>· Determine the impact on established minimum flows from the point in the basin where the withdrawal occurs</li> </ul>
Create a new, statewide governance structure to administer permit systems for water withdrawal/use; or support the development of the Regulated Riparian Model Water Code which would enable existing agencies to modify the regulations to support the objectives of the WAPAC.
Establish a statewide "pre-application review process" for development projects that are deemed "significant"
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Establish formal, multi-disciplinary teams to provide review.</li> </ul>
Create a water use reporting system
Discourage future OOBT, especially, but not exclusively of, groundwater-except during emergencies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Encourage emergency interconnections</li> <li>· Review existing written agreements between public water suppliers that provide for OOBT, whether in the form of contracts or other agreements, and encourage new agreements where none exist</li> </ul>
Using NEWUDS, determine an accurate method to calculate OOBT for each basin considering future water use
<b>Fees/Water Rates/Alternatives Sub-Committee</b>
Continue to evaluate alternative rate structures for water and sewer billings that promote conservation and drought (seasonal rates, drought structures, standardized bills)
Establish fees to fund water allocation program
<b>Education Sub-Committee</b>
Pending findings and recommendation of the WAPAC, prepare and package materials for targeted audience

<b>1st Steps</b>	
<b>Integrated Water Wastewater Sub-Committee</b>	
The reclamation, reuse, and/or recycling of wastewater and water (including storm water, water from industrial and other used waters) for beneficial reuse should be incorporated in the state's overall water strategy as an alternative water source to public and private surface and groundwater sources.	
A preliminary outreach project should be established that educates the general public, public and regulatory existing water users of the importance and benefits of reclaiming wastewater for beneficial reuse.	
The RI Department of Environmental Management (DEM) draft Guidelines for Wastewater Reclamation should be finalized.	
Legislation and/or regulations should be considered for all new residential, commercial and industrial projects that exceed a certain water use or wastewater treatment threshold. This legislation and/or regulations would require a development plan that evaluates and determines the feasibility of reuse and recycle systems for the proposed project.	
<b>Impact Analysis Sub-Committee</b>	
Information gathering and analysis (including: WRB and USGS studies, Stream flow monitoring, recalculation of safe yield, build-out analysis, alternative regulatory scenarios and impact modeling)	
Establish standards, priorities and protocols to protect the natural environment including stream flow standards	
Provide state leadership in support of municipal planning	
Expand the demand management tools available to suppliers	
<b>Other</b>	
Technical Assistance (MUTAP, Land Use, Demand Management, etc.)	
Conservation	

## Plans/Policies/Coordination/Regulatory Updates

Rec. #	Recommendation	Committee	SGP Rec.	SGP Rec. #	Revise SGP	L N
23	Conjunctive use of the resource	Rights	P & M	A-1	Y	
82	State leadership for municipal planning	Impact	P & M	A-1	N	
37	Prepare a statewide Water Allocation Plan	OOBT	P & M	A-2	Y	
17	Agencies integrate regulations with WAP	Rights	P & M	A-4	N	
68	Finalize DEM wastewater reuse guidelines	WW	P & M	A-4	N	
66	Incorporate wastewater reuse in WAP	WW	P & M	A-4	N	
47	Revise DEM's Facilities Plan Review Checklist	OOBT	P & M	A-4	N	
25	Revise state emergency plans	Rights	SM	B-4	Y	
28	Joint management of land use and water	Rights	SM	B-6	Y	
29	Amend drought plan: credits, priority uses	Rights	DSM	C-5	Y	
19	Coordinate restrictions during drought	Rights	DSM	C-5	N	
59	Standardize response to drought	Rates	DSM	C-5	Y	
24	Consolidate water planning documents	Rights	O	O	N	
26	Record enforceable policies with Sec.of State	Rights	O	O	N	
36,20	Review written agreements between suppliers	OOBT/Rights	SM	B-3	N	